



PATENT  
New Attorney Docket No. 54442-20002.10  
Old Attorney Docket No. 38599.0015

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: James D. Thacker ) Group Art Unit: 1645  
Appl. No.: 10/020,923 )  
Filing Date: December 19, 2001 ) Examiner: Khatol S. Shahnan Shah  
Title: METHODS FOR THE RAPID DETECTION OF ACTIVELY RESPIRING  
MICROORGANISM

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT**

Sir:

a.) **Introductory Comments:**

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

In response to the non-final Office Action, mail dated May 5, 2004, applicant respectfully requests entry of the following amendments to the claims and reconsideration of the rejections of record in view of these amendments and applicant's remarks below.